

FRENCH MAKE MAIN GAINS ALONG FRONT

A Bayonet Attack Wins Ground at Notre Dame de Lorette.

AVIATORS SHELL GERMAN POSITIONS

SUMMARY OF THE WAR NEWS.

News of the sinking by a German submarine of the Dutch steamer *Katwijk* has caused consternation in Holland, where the people are as one in calling on the Government to demand a full apology from Germany or to declare war.

Berlin reports that the Germans are holding their own on the western front and that attacks of the French forces at various points on the southern part of the line have failed. The official German statement also says that the Russian invasion of Hungary has been a failure.

French troops carried an important position near Arras at the point of the bayonet. The French made an advance of nearly a mile in Alsace. French aviators dropped bombs on the headquarters of the Imperial General Staff at Mezières.

According to the Petrograd official statement the operations on the southern front of the Carpathians have been entirely successful and the Austrians are in full retreat, burning the bridges behind them.

FRENCH REPORT MANY ADVANCES

Gains at Notre Dame de Lorette and Other Places Noted.

PARIS, April 15.—French troops made notable advances to-day at widely separated points of the battle line, one in the region of Arras after a hotly contested fight and another in Alsace, where a fight of nearly a mile was made. In the fighting on the northern part of the line the French drove the Germans at the bayonet's point from the hill east of Notre Dame de Lorette, continuing the drive toward Lens and Douai undertaken last month.

A notable feature of the operations today was the bombardment by French aviators of several towns occupied by the Germans. One aviator flew over the German lines at the center of the line, and reached Mezières, a distance of about thirty-five miles from Craonne, and hurled five bombs on the buildings occupied by the Imperial General Staff. Several other aviators also took part in the attack. The St. Mihiel salient is also reported in the official communiqué issued at 11 o'clock to-night, which is as follows:

North of Arras we have carried off a brilliant victory which completes that of last month. The entire spur southwest of Notre Dame de Lorette has been taken. At the point of the bayonet by our troops, who now hold all the slopes southeast as far as the borders of Albert, Nazareth. We took 1,000 prisoners, including several officers, and captured three bomb throwers and two machine-guns.

At Thiepval, on the La Boisselle, in the region of Albert, the enemy attempted to deliver two attacks, but they were immediately stopped by our troops.

In the Argonne, at Bagatelle, our artillery demolished the principal German trench. Further to the east, near the town of Verdun, we repulsed an attack. At Les Eparges the enemy delivered three counter attacks during the night from Wednesday to Thursday, but in each attempt to retake the eastern salient. He was repulsed with heavy losses. The enemy resumed the bombardment of the position at night, but delivered no infantry attack.

In the Mortuary wood we repulsed a counter attack and progressed on the ground occupied on April 12.

Inventory of our booty: Two revolving guns, two bomb throwers, one machine-gun, several hundred rifles and thousands of cartridges and hand grenades.

In Le Pretre wood we repulsed an attack and took many prisoners. A German aviator has dropped bombs on the hospital at Mourmelon.

As a reprisal for the bombardment of Nancy by the Germans, one of our aviators dropped five bombs on the grand general headquarters. The projectiles all fell on the buildings in which the German General Staff is installed at Mezières. Our aviators also bombed the railway station at Fréburg on Wednesday night, and fifteen aeroplanes threw bombs successfully on the military buildings of the Germans at Orléans. Our machines were subjected to a violent shelling, but all returned intact.

The most notable achievement reported in the communiqué issued in the afternoon was the capture of French forces in the district north of Hartmannswillerkopf, the strategic peak captured several days ago. The invaders of Alsace were driven toward of 1,500 yards north of the River Lauch in the direction of Schœnenbergkopf. The text of the afternoon communiqué is as follows:

Near La Boisselle our heavy artillery completely wrecked German positions and trenches.

In the Argonne, near Fontenoy-aux-Charlies, a local engagement took place, from trench to trench, in which we gained the advantage. Our ascending attack on the German position at this point is becoming more and more pronounced.

On April 14, the day following the repulse by our artillery of the counter attack at Les Eparges, made by the enemy debouching from Combrès, the Germans bombarded our positions by a heavy shelling.

The extension of our front at the Ally Wood, already reported, was maintained against a counter attack. Our troops, under the command of a portion of the principal German trench, and to the north of this trench also gained for us a section of front 200 yards long and 100 yards wide. The new trench gained by us near the Essey-Pirey highroad remains in our possession.

Near Fey-en-Haye a bombardment was carried on, but was not followed up by an infantry attack. In the forest of Le Pretre, after having won in the course of the 13th part of the German lines, we maintained our gains yesterday, and stopped a counter attack by machine guns.

In Alsace, to the north of La Lauche, we made progress amounting to 1,500 yards in the direction of Schœnenbergkopf.

FLEEING AUSTRIAN FORCES DESTROY RAILROAD LINES

Defenders Abandon Ungvar, Near Uzok Pass, Petrograd Hears—Official Information Differs, Teuton Allies Claiming Check of Russian Advance.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.
LONDON, April 15.—The Russian War Office at Petrograd announced to-day that the Austro-German offensive at Kozlowa, eleven miles northeast of the Uzok Pass, has been completely checked after suffering terrible losses. The advantage gained here opens a new approach against the Uzok Pass and affords the Russian forces an opportunity to resume their offensive movement toward the Hungarian plains.

The official statement issued at Berlin, however, completely refutes the claims of the Russian War Office and says that the Russians have been badly beaten and checked at every point in the attempted invasion of Hungary. Furthermore, says the German War Office, there are unmistakable indications that the Russian armies fighting in this locality are on the verge of complete exhaustion and have practically abandoned their offensive.

Petrograd dispatches say that the Russians now hold every important height in the East Beskide and are today less than three miles from the Uzok Pass. Ungvar, a town to the west of the Pass, has been abandoned by its defenders, and the Austro-German forces are now blowing up the railroad tunnels in the Pass and destroying the railroads in an effort to cover their retreat. The opinion is general that upward of 4,000,000 men are now in the armies.

KING'S COUSIN HEADS STRIKERS IN MILAN

Business Is Suspended and Schools Close—Troops Disperse Mob.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.
ROME, April 15.—The general strike called at Milan as a result of the strike of the railway workers in the night last Sunday, when the police refused to let crowds assemble in a demonstration favoring war, went into effect yesterday and tied up the city's entire activities. The shops were closed and even the street cars were stopped while the strikers paraded the streets, and hooted the police, but cheered the soldiers whenever any were met.

At noon the crowds increased to such proportions and their attitude became so menacing that the schools were closed. Revolvers were fired occasionally into the air. In the afternoon more than 15,000 of these strikers assembled to accompany the body of a working man, who had been beaten to death in the riots on Sunday, to the burial ground.

A detachment of bicycle policemen came upon the procession as it was proceeding through the city, but no attempt was made to stop or disperse so formidable a crowd. After the funeral there was a fight between students and workmen who had been following the body. Several were injured.

Speakers of a violent character were delivered at the cemetery by Deputes Turati, de Ambris and Chiesa, who in the course of their remarks exhorted the strikers to hold any more meetings and to disperse quietly. Afterward the strikers hurried back to the center of the city where, in the meantime, troops had been drawn up in place of the policemen. This had a quieting effect upon the strikers, who had shown a strong disposition all day to make idols of the troops.

Italian War Chiefs Confer.
ROME, April 15.—Premier Sonnino, the Minister of War, the Minister of the Navy and the Chief of Staff held a conference this afternoon. It was the longest conference held between these men since the war began. No statement was made afterward and the subject of discussion was held secret.

GREEK KING NOT FARSIGHTED.
Correspondent Says Venizelos Is Greater Statesman Than Monarch.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.
LONDON, April 15.—The Athens correspondent of the *Daily Mail*, referring to the split between King Constantine and ex-Premier Venizelos, who resigned office when it was apparent that the King was resolved not to join the Allies, says:

"King Constantine is more of a soldier than a statesman. He cannot see further ahead than the present. M. Venizelos is one of the most farsighted statesmen in Europe. He visualizes conditions fifty years hence. The status of the Greece of the next generation depends on to-day's decisions."

"For M. Venizelos, in a question whether Greece is to remain a miniature State or become the greater Greece of his dreams, exercising the natural hegemony of the Balkans. The King's attitude is undoubtedly sincere. He believes Germany can win and his sympathies are naturally predisposed by his marriage and by his training in the Prussian Guard."

"M. Venizelos knows that the ideals of Greece are bound up with the success of the Allies. The political significance of the current events in this part of Europe is very grave. It is here that the scene of the drama of the future of the world is being played."

BELGIUM AWAITS HOUR.
Cardinal Mercier Looks Forward to Time of Liberation.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.
LONDON, April 15.—Cardinal Mercier, Archbishop of Malines, has again offered German subsidies. A despatch from Berlin says the *Tagblatt* prints a letter said to have been written by the Cardinal to Cardinal Amette, Archbishop of Paris, showing the newspaper says, "how little success the Germans have achieved by their extravagantly considerate treatment of him."

The letter is said to express Cardinal Mercier's admiration for France and his regret at his inability to give full vent to his feelings. According to the *Tagblatt* the *Reichsdruck* part of the letter is as follows:

"I cannot doubt that the day is approaching when full freedom of our movements and our words will be restored. You and we will then have the great joy to express openly all the patriotic and Christian feelings which at present are pent up in our souls. God grant that we may patiently await the hour of liberation."

NO BALKAN WAR FEARED.
Servo-Bulgarian Incident Reported Near Ambulance Settlement.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.
ROME, April 15.—It is believed here that there is no likelihood of complications in the Balkans as the Servo-Bulgarian incident is on the way to amicable settlement.

The Greco-Serbian joint defensive measures in Macedonia are taken here to mean only a necessary precaution and do not imply hostility toward Bulgaria.

PADEREWSKI HERE IN AID OF POLAND

Comes to Organize Country-wide Polish Victims' Relief Work.

HEART TOO SAD TO PLAY

Ignace Jan Paderewski, who has abandoned the piano as a means of earning his living because of the blight of his unhappy country, arrived last night by the White Star liner *Adriatic*, looking much like the virtuoso of old, with a fine shock of Titian hair showing beneath the beard of his little hat. Many friends greeted him at the pier, including several women, whose hands he kissed in the gallant style of Poland's cultured. Among the men folk who met the pianist were his stepson, W. A. Gorski, Ernest Urichs of the Steinway company, C. A. Ellis, Guillaume Stengel-Semich, Alexander Lambert and Ernest Schelling.

Paderewski said positively that would not be heard publicly, but that he could not say that he might not play otherwise. Mr. Urichs remarked that the apartments of the pianist and let Providence do the rest. Paderewski was more than usually serene in speaking of the devastation of Poland by both German and Russian forces.

"The area of the desolated district," he said, "is seven times as great as that of Belgium and thousands upon thousands have lost everything they had to make life worth living. I have not been

to any battle front and so have no personal taste to tell of the war. All that I know is that my country has been laid waste by war. I am not for the Russians and not for the Germans. I am pro-Pole. I am here to help in the collection of money to alleviate the suffering in my country. I am not in the mood to appear before an audience even if the object of the concert were to raise funds for the general relief of Poland. I am too full to permit me to play while my country is suffering. I am, as I have said before, in mourning."

"Unfortunately, and for our shame, numerous crimes have been committed against foreigners on Mexican soil during the last four years and a half. Englishmen were cowardly assassinated, many of them in the streets. The women were brutally violated in Coahuila, Sinaloa and other places. The bodies of the Indian giving way to a purely Latin excitability, the dull eyes flashing and the straight, tight lips loosening into a grin, they were the result of the anarchical propaganda of Mr. Madero and his followers."

"When I took charge of the administration of my country, I found it in a state of utter ruin. I had to order the best I could, but I did not adopt any drastic measures. I did not know how to do it. I never called on anybody for forcible loans. Not a single banking institution went to the wall during my administration. They all paid dividends. Not a single business house shut its doors. You see, I tried to build up; I did not want to destroy."

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"But I would rather not discuss this subject too deeply. It is a discourtesy, you know, for a foreigner to criticize heads of a nation whose hospitality he enjoys."

"It was then said that my humble person was the cause of the reigning conditions in my country. After due meditation I decided to see if by my own elimination I could do some good to my country and fulfill the offer I made my country; bring peace no matter at what cost. I may say were it not for the immense love for my country and the fervent desire for its good and progress I would still be the constitutional President of my country, as there never existed nor could there exist any power that could fight and win against right and justice and drive me from my post. I resigned because I thought by so doing I could benefit my country. I left the Presidency voluntarily. Nobody took it as the man for the job. Mr. Madero, while being conducted to the penitentiary, died an unnatural death."

"In the opinion of some of the public in this country I am blamed as having taken part in executing him. I never have tried to shirk any responsibilities and anything my military or civil administration I am proud to stand by what I do. I know I am not to blame for the death of Mr. Madero. Time and history will decide this."

"On February 19, 1913, I became the constitutional President of Mexico. Far be it from my mind to make a eulogy of my country. I am a Pole, and neither do I with impartiality, nor does this work belong to me. In the future history will do it, telling all the bad and the good of my military and civil administrative efforts while I was the constitutional President of the United States of Mexico. But I must say that during my administration I have made all the foreign citizens of my republic, as well as all the foreigners resident there, until the very last moment of my command, feel that they were in my home, that their lives and their properties were fully protected."

"I appeal to the testimony of the Spanish, French and English colonies and particularly to the important American colony resident in Mexico. They will and do confirm what I say. Nobody has ever dared to accuse me of having suffered directly or indirectly from my Government any loss of life or interests. I make special mention of the American citizens residing in Mexico then are at present in the United States of America."

"During the seventeen months that I was President of Mexico I had the good fortune to enjoy the confidence and moral support of the whole American colony resident there, including United States citizens. I have received the support of Mr. Wilson and Mr. Charles D. Adams, Nelson O'Shaughnessy, both of whom were my personal friends, as well as a great many other American residents there."

Very Painful to Him.
"It was very painful to see numerous American families break up their homes, abandon their business and leave our country by the advice of your Government. No longer did I have a single Mexican in my Government. I took special care of the Americans. Special trains were placed at their disposition and armed forces accompanied them. I have seen thousands of American men, women and children can verify the above."

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"But I would rather not discuss this subject too deeply. It is a discourtesy, you know, for a foreigner to criticize heads of a nation whose hospitality he enjoys."

"It was then said that